

Final Spurt Lifts Wanderers In League Climax

Bromley Are Eclipsed In Last Game

BY defeating Bromley 3-2 at Bromley on Saturday in an impressive climax to their campaign, collecting five points from their last three matches, Wycombe Wanderers finish seventh in the league table — a much better position than at one time thought possible.

With 31 points from their 30 games, the Wanderers have improved on their position last year, in spite of early disappointments and the handicap of a crop of injuries in mid-season.

"Financially, the season has not been a particularly good one," says the club general secretary, Mr. Bill Hayter, "but from the playing point of view we have done a good deal better than expected at one time."

After trouncing Dulwich Hamlet 6-0 and holding Tooting to a 2-2 draw at Tooting in mid-week, the Wanderers maintained their marked end-of-season improvement against last season's champions Bromley on Saturday evening and were well worth their 3-2 victory.

With John Fisher unfit, Wycombe brought John Birch into the defence and George Pullin again appeared at centre-half and maintained the promise he

had shown in the position against Tooting a few days earlier.

Two other reserve men, Arthur Caughlin and Tony Thompson, were at inside-forward, with Holmes taking over from Bates at centre-forward and the lively Wycombe front line exploited the uncertainty of the Bromley defence in the first half to forge into a 2-0 interval lead, with goals from Gale, 16 minutes after the start, and from Holmes a few minutes before half-time.

WINNING GOAL

Bromley had more of the play in the second half and Anderson narrowed the margin with a surprise goal immediately after the interval, and added a second 17 minutes later.

But with Holmes opening out the attack with some shrewd passing, Wycombe's attack gave the home defence plenty of trouble and Thompson ran through in fine style to claim what proved to be the winning goal in the 65th minute.

WYCOMBE SNATCH THEIR CHANCES

Bromley 2 Wycombe Wands 3
BROMLEY, last season's Isthmian League champions, now find themselves in the lowest position they have occupied in the Isthmian League table—fourth from bottom. And the final blow of Bromley's poorest season since the war was this shock home defeat by Wycombe Wanderers, who are also in distress.

Wycombe took the points, but their football, like Bromley's, was devoid of ideas. But they made use of the uncertainty of the home defence.

The Wanderers held a 2-0 lead with goals by Thomas (16 minutes) and Holmes (42 minutes). Then Anderson scored in the 46th and 63rd minutes, but another defence blunder let Holmes through to score the winner in the 65th minute.